Railways and by the proposed Corporation. Detailed terms of the proposed MoU are still being worked out.

Facilities at Gaya railway station

3542. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways has recognised the importance of Bodh Gaya as a major tourist and pilgrimage centre;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken for providing computerised reservation, special quota for foreign and Indian tourists; and

(c) by when such facilities are expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A computerised reservation centre has been sanctioned to be set up at Bodh Gaya. The facility of foreign tourist quota can be availed by the foreign tourist from this centre.

M.G. rail lines in Rajasthan

3543. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of metre gauge rail lines in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of those metre gauge lines for which conversion work started more than two years ago but remains incomplete, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted for gauge conversion of Himmatnagar Chittaurgarh *via* Udaipur metre gauge line; and

(d) if so, the when the said project is likely to be completed, indicating the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The total length (route kilometres) of metre gauge railway lines in Rajasthan is 2803 kms. (latest available figure as on 31.3.1999).

(b) Gauge Conversion works taken up more than two years ago in Rajasthan and not yet completed are:—

(i) Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur

(ii) Bhildi-Samdari

(iii) Luni-Barmer-Munabao

(iv) Agra Fort-Bandikui

(v) Pipar Road-Bilara (part of Phulera-Jodhpur-Pipar Road-Bilara Project).

These projects could not be completed so far due to constraint of resources.

Work on conversion of Sri Ganganagar-Sarupsar and Rewari-Sadulpur M.G. lines is also included in the Budget. However, work on these projects will be taken up after obtaining the necessary clearances, for which necessary action has already been initiated.

(c) and (d) A survey for gauge conversion of Himmatnagar-Udaipur is in progress. Estimated cost will be known and further consideration of this project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Work on conversion of Chittaurgarh-Udaipur is already sanctioned as part of Ajmer-Chittaurgarh- Udaipur gauge conversion project and the work is in progress. The estimated cost of this work, including that of Ajmer-Chittaurgarh, is Rs. 445.38 crores. This work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Grievances of Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Parishad

3544. DR. SHRIMATI JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA:
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Parishad under NF Railway gave notice for going on fast unto death to ensure fulfilment of their long standing greivances;

(b) if so, the circumstances which compelled them to resort to such a drastic step;